

Application Number 10/810,752  
Amendment dated 22 January 2008  
Reply to Office Action of 24 July 2007

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A rotatable fairing apparatus comprising:

a vertical support member anchored in a foundation, wherein the vertical support member is subjected to an aerodynamic drag force; and

a hollow elongate fairing sleeve covering ~~at least an upper~~ portion of the vertical support member and rotatably secured to the vertical support member, such that a lower portion of the vertical support member is left uncovered by the fairing sleeve, the hollow elongate sleeve having a shape configured to reduce the aerodynamic drag force acting on the vertical support member.

Claim 2 (original): The rotatable fairing apparatus of claim 1, wherein the hollow elongate fairing sleeve is rotatably secured to the vertical support member by at least one bearing joint.

Claim 3 (original): The rotatable fairing apparatus of claim 2, wherein the hollow elongate fairing sleeve further comprises a first end, a second end opposite the first end, and bearing joints positioned at the first and second ends.

Claim 4 (original): The rotatable fairing apparatus of claim 2, further comprising a lateral support structure disposed on an interior side of the hollow elongate fairing sleeve, the lateral support structure comprising a plurality of bearings configured to facilitate rotation of the hollow elongate fairing sleeve around the vertical support structure during subjection of the aerodynamic drag force.

Claim 5 (original): The rotatable fairing apparatus of claim 1, wherein:

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the vertical support member further comprises a tapered end structure;  
and

the hollow elongate fairing sleeve further comprises a cupped support receptacle disposed within an interior side, the cupped support receptacle configured to receive the tapered end structure.

Claim 6 (currently amended): An apparatus comprising:

an elongate support member that is oriented vertically, the elongate support member having an upper portion and a lower portion; and

an elongate fairing sleeve having a first axis, the elongate fairing sleeve covering ~~at least a~~ the upper portion of the elongate support member without covering the lower portion of the elongate support member, configured to rotate around the upper portion of the elongate support member on the elongate fairing sleeve first axis, and substantially shaped to reduce an aerodynamic drag force acting on the upper portion of the elongate support member.

Claim 7 (original): The apparatus of claim 6, wherein:

the elongate support member further comprises a tapered end structure;  
and

the elongate fairing sleeve further comprises a cupped support receptacle disposed within an interior side, the cupped support receptacle configured to receive the tapered end structure.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the covered upper portion of the elongate support member has an first aerodynamic drag coefficient that is greater than a second aerodynamic drag coefficient of the elongate fairing sleeve.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the lower

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portion of the elongate support member is oriented vertically, and is anchored in a foundation structure.

Claim 10 (original): The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the elongate fairing sleeve has an upper end and a lower end opposite the upper end, such that the lower end is displaced from the foundation structure by a first height.

Claim 11 (original): The apparatus of claim 10, further comprising a safety shield attached to the elongate support member and displaced from the foundation structure by a second height, such that the second height is less than the first height.

Claim 12 (original): The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the elongate support member has a circular cross-sectional profile.

Claim 13 (original): The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the elongate support member has a rectangular cross-sectional profile.

Claim 14 (original): The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the elongate support member has a square cross-sectional profile.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The ~~rotatable fairing~~ apparatus of claim 6, wherein the ~~hollow~~ elongate fairing sleeve is rotatably secured to the ~~vertical~~ elongate support member by at least one bearing joint.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The ~~rotatable fairing~~ apparatus of claim 15, wherein the ~~hollow~~ elongate fairing sleeve further comprises a first end, a second end opposite the first end, and bearing joints positioned at the first and second ends.

Claim 17 (currently amended): The ~~rotatable fairing~~ apparatus of claim 15, further comprising a lateral support structure disposed on an interior side of the ~~hollow~~

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elongate fairing sleeve, the lateral support structure comprising a plurality of bearings configured to facilitate rotation of the hollow elongate fairing sleeve around the vertical elongate support structure during subjection of the aerodynamic drag force.

Claim 18 (currently amended): An apparatus comprising:

an elongate support member that is oriented vertically, the elongate support member having an upper portion and a lower portion that is opposite the upper portion;

an elongate fairing sleeve having a longitudinal axis and covering at least a portion of the upper portion of the elongate support member while leaving the lower portion of the elongate support member uncovered; and

means for attaching the elongate support structure member to the upper portion of the elongate fairing device, sleeve, such that the elongate fairing device sleeve can rotate around the upper portion of the elongate support member on the elongate fairing sleeve longitudinal axis.

Claim 19 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the covered upper portion of the elongate support member has an first aerodynamic drag coefficient that is greater than a second aerodynamic drag coefficient of the elongate fairing sleeve.

Claim 20 (original): The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the elongate support member has a rectangular cross-sectional profile.

Claim 21 (original): The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the elongate support member has a square cross-sectional profile.

Claim 22 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the elongate support member is oriented vertically, and is anchored in a foundation structure.

Claim 23 (original): The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the elongate fairing sleeve has an upper end and a lower end opposite the upper end, such that the lower end is displaced from the foundation structure by a first height.

Claim 24 (original): The apparatus of claim 23, further comprising a safety shield attached to the elongate support member and displaced from the foundation structure by a second height, such that the second height is less than the first height.

Claim 25 (currently amended): An apparatus comprising:

a first elongate support member;

a second elongate support member that is attached to the first elongate support member, and that is substantially perpendicular to the first elongate support member;

a first elongate fairing sleeve covering at least a portion of the first elongate support member, and configured to rotate around the first elongate support member; and

a second elongate fairing sleeve covering at least a portion of the second elongate support member, and configured to rotate around the second elongate support member.

Claim 26 (currently amended): A method comprising:

providing mounting an elongate object in a foundation structure, the elongate object having a first aerodynamic drag coefficient and a substantially vertical configuration; and

mounting a rotatable cover having a second aerodynamic drag coefficient on an upper portion of the elongate object, wherein the rotatable cover leaves a lower portion of the elongate object uncovered, and wherein the second aerodynamic drag coefficient is less than the first aerodynamic drag coefficient.

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Claims 27–28 (cancelled).

Claim 29 (currently amended): The method of claim 28, claim 26, further comprising attaching a safety shield to the elongate object such that the safety shield is positioned between the rotatable cover and displaced from the foundation structure by a second height, wherein the second height is less than the first height.